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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/849,510	05/19/2004	Gregory John Billington	07703-340RE1	6776
26211 7590 10/10/2008 FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				
EXAMINER				
BEAUCHAINE, MARK J				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3653				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/10/2008		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/849,510

Applicant(s)

BILLINGTON ET AL.

Examiner

MARK J. BEAUCHAINE

Art Unit

3653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-29 and 32-40 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-29 and 32-40 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/546,126.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-21, 24-29, 32, 33 and 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent Number 5,45,688 by Furukawa et al ("Furukawa") in view of Patent Number 5,464,087 by Bounds et al ("Bounds") in view of Patent Number US 6,259,706 B1 by Shimada ("Shimada"). The first communication device (DEVICE 4) (see Figure 4) disclosed by Furukawa facilitates communications between external controller (DEVICE 1 CPU) and further device (DEVICE 5). Said first communication device comprises internal controller IPC and uses a communication protocol to communicate with said external controller and said further device via a first and a second port, respectively. Furthermore, said first device copies the content of signals between said first and second ports to a memory without modification (see column 9, lines 40-46).

Although Furukawa fails to disclose said communication device configuration in use with money handlers said configuration is applicable to such apparatus (see column 15, lines 32-44). Furthermore, Bounds teaches a communication device having a

configuration of first money handling device 14 and a further money handling device (see column 3, lines 57-61; and column 6, lines 50-56) via removably connected ports 30 for the purpose of providing an operator with audit information related to said device. Different types of devices are distinguished via a code (see column 3, lines 5-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the first and further money handling device communication configuration of Bounds into the communication device configuration of Furukawa for the purpose of providing an operator with audit information related to said device.

Furukawa fails to disclose said first communication device communicating to various devices via multiple communications protocols not fully supported over both ports. Shimada teaches a communication device comprising a first device 6 that facilitates communication between external controller 2 over a first port and further device 4 over a second port (see Figure 1 and column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 4) for the purpose of permitting data transmission between different apparatus. Said further device communicates with said first device using a protocol not fully supported by said first port. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the communication configuration of Shimada into the device of Furukawa for the purpose of permitting data transmission between different apparatus.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa in view of Bounds in view of Shimada as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of

Patent Number 6,119,053 by Taylor et al ("Taylor"). Furukawa/Bounds/Shimada fails to disclose the use of an MDB protocol. Taylor teaches a money handling device operated via an MDB protocol (see column 3, lines 16-23) for the purpose of providing communication between devices. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate MDB protocol operation of Taylor into the device of Furukawa/Bounds/Shimada for the purpose of providing communication between devices.

Claims 22, 23, 34 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa in view of Bounds in view of Patent Number US 6,917,594 B2 by Feuerstraeter et al ("Feuerstraeter"). The first communication device (DEVICE 4) (see Figure 4) disclosed by Furukawa facilitates communications between external controller (DEVICE 1 CPU) and further device (DEVICE 5). Said first communication device comprises internal controller IPC and uses a communication protocol to communicate with said external controller and said further device via a first and a second port, respectively. Furthermore, said first device copies the content of signals between said first and second ports to a memory without modification (see column 9, lines 40-46).

Although Furukawa fails to disclose said communication device configuration in use with money handlers said configuration is applicable to such apparatus (see column 15, lines 32-44). Furthermore, Bounds teaches a communication device having a configuration of first money handling device 14 and a further money handling device

(see column 3, lines 57-61; and column 6, lines 50-56) via removably connected ports 30 for the purpose of providing an operator with audit information related to said device. Different types of devices are distinguished via a code (see column 3, lines 5-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the first and further money handling device communication configuration of Bounds into the communication device configuration of Furukawa for the purpose of providing an operator with audit information related to said device.

Furukawa fails to disclose a protocol selection based upon a determination of one of a plurality of first ports. Feuerstraeter teaches a communication device comprising controller 120 that selects a communications protocol based upon the determination of which one of ports 100 and 102 is being used (see Figure 4 and column 8, line 60 through column 9, line 8) for the purpose of optimizing the amount of data communicated by said device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the protocol selection configuration of Feuerstraeter into the device of Furukawa for the purpose of optimizing the amount of data communicated by said device.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 10-29 and 32-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK J. BEAUCHAINE whose telephone number is (571)272-6934. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM through 5:00PM Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick H. Mackey can be reached on (571)272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patrick H. Mackey/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3653

mjb

